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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, awe and wonder grip us as we think magnificently about You. You are all-knowing, all-loving, all-wise, all-powerful. We openly confess our human inadequacies and our need for You to infuse us with the strength, understanding, and compassion needed for this day.

We open our minds to think Your thoughts. We commit to You our communications with others. Help us to speak truth as we know it, but also enable us to be responsive to what others say. Free us from judgmental categorizations that make us resistant to listening to people with whom we expect to differ. Give us the humility to know that none of us has a corner on Your truth and that we all need each other to discover Your guidance together. We yield our attitudes and dispositions to Your control so that we might work effectively with others. We press on with the duties of the day with hope in our hearts. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, Senator ALLARD, is recognized.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote previously scheduled for 9:40 a.m. today now occur at 10:30 a.m., with the debate time on the nomination beginning at 10:20 a.m., as under the previous order.

In addition, I ask unanimous consent that the debate on the motion to proceed to S. 1269 now begin at 9:30 a.m.,

with the time counting as under the previous order.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SCHEDULE

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, this morning, the Senate will resume legislative session and debate on the motion to proceed to S. 1269, the fast-track legislation, with Senator ROTH in control of 3 hours and Senator DORGAN in control of 4 hours. As under the previous order, the Senate will vote on or in relation to the motion to proceed to S. 1269 at no later than 5 p.m. At 10:20 this morning, the Senate will proceed to executive session to debate the nomination of James Gwin to be U.S. district judge for the northern district of Ohio for 10 minutes as under the previous order. A rollcall vote on the nomination will now occur at 10:30 a.m. Following the vote on fast track, the Senate may debate S. 1269 or turn to any of the following items if available: the D.C. appropriations bill, FDA reform conference report, Intelligence authorization conference report, and any additional legislative or executive items that can be cleared for action. Therefore, Members can anticipate rollcall votes throughout today's session of the Senate.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALLARD). Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF MARGARET MORROW TO BE U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, although I am delighted that the Senate will today be confirming James S. Gwin as a Federal district court judge, the Republican Leader has once again passed over and refused to take up the nomination of Margaret Morrow. Ms. Morrow's nomination is the longest pending judicial nomination on the Senate Calendar, having languished on the Senate Calendar since June 12. The central district of California desperately needs this vacancy filled, which has been open for more than 18 months, and Margaret Morrow is eminently qualified to fill it.

Just last week, the opponents of this nomination announced in a press conference that they welcomed a debate and rollcall vote on Margaret Morrow. But again the Republican majority leader has refused to bring up this well-qualified nominee for such debate and vote. It appears that Republicans have time for press conferences to attack one of the President's judicial nominations, but the majority leader will not allow the U.S. Senate to turn to that nomination for a vote. We can discuss the nomination in sequential press conferences and weekend talk show appearances but not in the one place that action must be taken on it, on the floor of the U.S. Senate. The Senate has suffered through hours of quorum calls in the past few weeks which time would have been better spent debating and voting on this judicial nomination.

The extremist attacks on Margaret Morrow are puzzling—not only to those

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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